



Funding Research ♦ Changing Practice ♦ Creating Awareness

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April 1, 2009

The Honorable Lamar Smith
U.S. House of Representatives
2409 Rayburn Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Smith:

On behalf of the National Trauma Institute (NTI), I request your support for FY2010 DoD funding of \$4,500,000 for a research effort entitled "Techniques to Manage Noncompressible Hemorrhage Following Combat Injury," to be administered by NTI.

The National Trauma Institute is a non-profit, 501C3 organization dedicated to raising funds and awareness for trauma related research. As you may be aware, traumatic injuries claim over 167,000 lives annually. Traumatic injury claims more lives of those of aged one to 44 than any disease or other medical condition. The war and our injured soldiers have brought this devastating issue to the forefront, but for decades the statistics for traumatic injuries have been too high, not just on the battlefield but also in the civilian population throughout our country.

In the US, hemorrhage is responsible for 30% to 40% of deaths following a traumatic injury. Studies show that noncompressible hemorrhage from injuries to the torso is the leading cause of potentially survivable deaths of American troops. ***Mitigation of death and injury from noncompressible hemorrhage is the highest priority of US military trauma surgeons and researchers.*** Many of the problems associated with noncompressible hemorrhage are potentially solvable and are transferable between military and civilian trauma care. Requested funding would be utilized to further research in a number of promising areas and would potentially help save thousands of lives annually. Hence this funding would clearly be a wise use of taxpayer dollars.

Thank you for your consideration of this request for support. Our application includes further detail on this request. Please contact me or Sharon Smith, NTI Executive Director, if you need any further information.

Respectfully,

Ronald M. Stewart, MD
Chairman